

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A convertible vehicle comprising:
a vehicle body having a pair of lateral sides,
a folding convertible top,
a tensioning bow coupled to a rear side of the folding convertible top and pivotably supported on both lateral sides of the vehicle body by tensioning bow pivots, and
a rear trunk lid pivotably supported on both lateral sides of the vehicle body by trunk lid pivots, the trunk lid pivots being separate from the tensioning bow pivots, wherein a front side of the rear trunk lid is disposed in the vicinity of the tensioning bow when the rear trunk lid is in a closed position and a loading opening of a luggage compartment is disposed underneath the rear trunk lid and underneath the tensioning bow at least when the folding convertible top is closed, and

wherein the tensioning bow is movable into an upwardly pivoted position during opening of the rear trunk lid or when the rear trunk lid is opened, so that the loading opening is enlarged.

18. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 17, further comprising a hinge device arranged between the rear trunk lid and the tensioning bow, wherein the hinge device is arranged and constructed to upwardly pivot the tensioning bow when the rear trunk lid is being opened.

19. (Currently Amended) A convertible vehicle comprising:
a vehicle body having a pair of lateral sides,
a folding convertible top,
a tensioning bow coupled to a rear side of the folding convertible top and pivotably
supported on both lateral sides of the vehicle body, and
a rear trunk lid pivotably supported on both lateral sides of the vehicle body, wherein a
front side of the rear trunk lid is disposed in the vicinity of the tensioning bow when the rear
trunk lid is in a closed position and a loading opening of a luggage compartment is disposed
underneath the rear trunk lid and underneath the tensioning bow at least when the folding
convertible top is closed, and
wherein the tensioning bow is movable into an upwardly pivoted position during opening
of the rear trunk lid or when the rear trunk lid is opened, so that the loading opening is enlarged,
~~A convertible vehicle according to claim 17,~~ wherein the tensioning bow is pivotable
independent of a pivoting of the rear trunk lid when the rear trunk lid is being opened.

20. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 19, further comprising an engagement device that is operative between the front side of the rear trunk lid and the tensioning bow, wherein the engagement device is arranged and constructed to pivot upwardly into a position that tensions the folding convertible top when the rear trunk lid is closed.

21. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 20, wherein the engagement device includes a catch hook affixed to the tensioning bow and further comprising a catch bracket affixed to the rear trunk lid, wherein the catch hook is arranged and constructed to be grasped by the catch bracket when the rear trunk lid is closed.

22. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 21, wherein the rear trunk lid and the tensioning bow are approximately co-axially supported relative to the vehicle body.

23. (Currently Amended) A convertible vehicle comprising:
a vehicle body having a pair of lateral sides,
a folding convertible top,
a tensioning bow coupled to a rear side of the folding convertible top and pivotably
supported on both lateral sides of the vehicle body, and
a rear trunk lid pivotably supported on both lateral sides of the vehicle body, wherein a
front side of the rear trunk lid is disposed in the vicinity of the tensioning bow when the rear
trunk lid is in a closed position and a loading opening of a luggage compartment is disposed
underneath the rear trunk lid and underneath the tensioning bow at least when the folding
convertible top is closed, and
wherein the tensioning bow is movable into an upwardly pivoted position during opening
of the rear trunk lid or when the rear trunk lid is opened, so that the loading opening is enlarged,
~~A convertible vehicle according to claim 17,~~ further comprising an engagement device
that is operative between the front side of the rear trunk lid and the tensioning bow, wherein the
engagement device is arranged and constructed to pivot upwardly into a position that tensions the
folding convertible top when the rear trunk lid is closed.

24. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 23, wherein the
engagement device includes a catch hook affixed to the tensioning bow and further comprising a
catch bracket affixed to the rear trunk lid, wherein the catch hook is arranged and constructed to
be grasped by the catch bracket when the rear trunk lid is closed.

25. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 17, wherein the
rear trunk lid and the tensioning bow are approximately co-axially supported relative to the
vehicle body.

26. (Currently Amended) A convertible vehicle comprising:
a vehicle body having a pair of lateral sides,
a folding convertible top,
a tensioning bow coupled to a rear side of the folding convertible top and pivotably
supported on both lateral sides of the vehicle body, and
a rear trunk lid pivotably supported on both lateral sides of the vehicle body, wherein a
front side of the rear trunk lid is disposed in the vicinity of the tensioning bow when the rear
trunk lid is in a closed position and a loading opening of a luggage compartment is disposed
underneath the rear trunk lid and underneath the tensioning bow at least when the folding
convertible top is closed, and
wherein the tensioning bow is movable into an upwardly pivoted position during opening
of the rear trunk lid or when the rear trunk lid is opened, so that the loading opening is enlarged,
further comprising a hinge device arranged between the rear trunk lid and the tensioning
bow, wherein the hinge device is arranged and constructed to upwardly pivot the tensioning bow
when the rear trunk lid is being opened.

~~A convertible vehicle according to claim 18,~~ wherein the hinge device is arranged and constructed such that, when the rear trunk lid is being opened, the rear side of the tensioning bow is first raised only slightly and then is raised more considerably as the rear trunk lid is further opened.

27. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 26, wherein the hinge device includes a coupling device arranged and constructed to release the hinge device when the folding convertible top is opened and the tensioning bow is thereby lowered.

28. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 27, wherein the hinge device includes:
a first pivot lever,
a second pivot lever connected to the first pivot lever via a hinge and
a coupling lever pivotably supported on the tensioning bow, the coupling lever being pivotable relative to and connectable with the first pivot lever.

29. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 28, wherein a pivot axis, the first and second pivot levers and the coupling lever are positioned and constructed such that pivoting the rear trunk lid from the closed position initially only leads to a relatively small pivoting of the tensioning bow in a raising direction of the rear side of the rear trunk lid and then leads to an increasingly larger pivoting as the rear trunk lid is further raised.

30. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 29, wherein the first pivot lever includes a longer arm and a shorter arm arranged substantially perpendicular to each other, wherein the longer arm is connected with a terminal end of the second pivot lever and the shorter arm is connectable with a free end of the coupling lever,

wherein the first pivot lever is pivotably connected to the vehicle body at a portion between said arms and

wherein a first bearing connection between the coupling lever and the tensioning bow is disposed substantially on a line that connects said portion between the arms and a second bearing connection between the coupling lever and the first pivot lever when the rear trunk lid is in the closed position.

31. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 30, wherein the second bearing connection between the coupling lever and the first pivot lever when the rear trunk lid is closed is releasable by pivoting the tensioning bow in a counter direction to the opening direction of the rear trunk lid.

32. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 31, wherein the coupling lever is arranged and constructed to be pivoted by pivoting of the tensioning bow in the direction opposite to the opening direction of the rear trunk lid and a pin provided on the coupling lever, the pin forming the second bearing connection between the coupling lever on the first pivot lever, is arranged and constructed to come out of engagement with a recess defined on the first pivot lever.

33. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 32, further comprising a latching device arranged and constructed to latch the engagement between the pin and the recess when the rear trunk lid is raised.

34. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 33, wherein the tensioning bow is supported on the vehicle body via a lever supported on the vehicle body.

35. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 34, further comprising an engagement device that is operative between the front side of the rear trunk lid and the tensioning bow, wherein the engagement device is arranged and constructed to pivot upwardly into a position that tensions the folding convertible top when the rear trunk lid is closed.

36. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 35, wherein the engagement device includes a catch hook affixed to the tensioning bow and further comprising a catch bracket affixed to the rear trunk lid, wherein the catch hook is arranged and constructed to be grasped by the catch bracket when the rear trunk lid is closed.

37. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 28, wherein the connection between the coupling lever and the first pivot lever is releasable when the rear trunk lid is closed by pivoting of the tensioning bow in a counter direction to the opening direction of the rear trunk lid.

38. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 37, wherein the coupling lever is arranged and constructed to be pivoted by pivoting of the tensioning bow in the direction opposite to the opening direction of the rear trunk lid and a pin provided on the coupling lever, the pin connecting the coupling lever with the first pivot lever, is arranged and constructed to come out of engagement with a recess defined on the first pivot lever.

39. (Previously Presented) A convertible vehicle according to claim 38, further comprising a latching device arranged and constructed to latch the engagement between the pin and the recess when the rear trunk lid is raised.

40. (Currently Amended) A convertible vehicle comprising:
a vehicle body having a pair of lateral sides,
a folding convertible top,
a tensioning bow coupled to a rear side of the folding convertible top and pivotably supported on both lateral sides of the vehicle body, and
a rear trunk lid pivotably supported on both lateral sides of the vehicle body, wherein a front side of the rear trunk lid is disposed in the vicinity of the tensioning bow when the rear trunk lid is in a closed position and a loading opening of a luggage compartment is disposed underneath the rear trunk lid and underneath the tensioning bow at least when the folding convertible top is closed, and
wherein the tensioning bow is movable into an upwardly pivoted position during opening of the rear trunk lid or when the rear trunk lid is opened, so that the loading opening is enlarged,
further comprising a hinge device arranged between the rear trunk lid and the tensioning bow, wherein the hinge device is arranged and constructed to upwardly pivot the tensioning bow when the rear trunk lid is being opened,
~~A convertible vehicle according to claim 18,~~ wherein the tensioning bow is supported on the vehicle body via a lever supported on the vehicle body.